WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

 A loading-assisting apparatus for use with a centrifuge, comprising:

a measuring device configured to measure the weight corresponding to each of processing groups of objects loaded in buckets of a centrifuge;

5

10

15

20

25

a determination device configured to determine a variation of the weight of each of the processing groups of the objects with reference to a corresponding reference value, based on the weight of each of the processing groups measured by the measuring device; and

an adjusting/loading device configured to make predetermined weight adjustment to each of the processing groups in accordance with determination the determination device makes, and to subsequently load the processing groups in the centrifuge.

2. A loading-assisting apparatus for use with a centrifuge, comprising:

a measuring device configured to measure weight corresponding to each of processing groups of objects before the processing groups are loaded in buckets of a centrifuge;

a determination device configured to determine a variation of the weight of each of the processing groups with reference to a corresponding reference value, based on the weight of each of the processing groups measured by the measuring device; and

an adjusting/loading device configured to make predetermined weight adjustment to each of the processing groups in accordance with determination the determination device makes, and to subsequently load the processing groups in the centrifuge.

5

10

15

20

25

- 3. A loading-assisting apparatus according to claim 2, wherein the determination device compares measurement data, which represent the weight of each processing group of the objects, with reference data, and generates and outputs variation ranking signals corresponding to the differences between the measurement data and the reference data.
- 4. A loading-assisting apparatus according to claim 3, wherein the adjusting/loading device includes means for adding a dummy object to each of the processing groups in accordance with the variation ranking signals transmitted from the determination device, and for subsequently performing a loading operation with reference to the buckets of the centrifuge.
- 5. A loading-assisting apparatus for use with a centrifuge, comprising:

a measuring device configured to individually measure weights of objects to be processed before the objects are loaded in the centrifuge;

means for sequentially loading the objects in buckets of the centrifuge after the measuring device

measures the weights of the objects;

5

10

15

20

25

counters configured to add weights of the objects sequentially loaded in the buckets of the centrifuge such that a total weight is obtained for each of processing groups of the objects loaded in the buckets;

a determination device configured to determine a variation of the weight of each of the processing groups with reference to a corresponding reference value, based on the weight of each of the processing groups measured by the measuring device; and

an adjusting/loading device configured to make weight adjustment to the groups already loaded in the buckets, in accordance with the determination the determination device makes.

- 6. A loading-assisting apparatus for use with a centrifuge, according to claim 5, wherein the determination device compares measurement data, which represent a total weight of each processing group of the objects, with reference data, and generates and outputs variation ranking signals corresponding to the differences between the measurement data and the reference data.
- 7. A loading-assisting apparatus for use with a centrifuge, according to claim 6, wherein the adjusting/loading device includes means for adding a dummy object to each of the processing groups loaded in the buckets in accordance with the variation ranking

signals transmitted from the determination device.